



Space and
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C4I & Space



United States Navy
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SPAWAR / PEO C4I & Space Leadership Network with Industry Executives

SAN DIEGO -- SPAWAR and PEO C4I & Space leadership presented briefings, answered questions, and networked with more than 150 military, civil servants and industry executives at the first SPAWAR / Industry Executive Network of 2004. Co-sponsored by SPAWAR and the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), the quarterly event took place on March 3rd at the Admiral Kidd Conference Center, Fleet ASW Base. The list of presenters included SPAWAR Commander RADM Ken Slaght, Deputy Commander Scott Randall, PEO C4I & Space Director of Operations James Churchill, Deputy for Interoperability and Innovation Thomas Higbee, and the Director for Contracts CAPT Basil Gray.



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RADM Slaght kicked-off the presentations with a summary of his recent visits to Washington, DC and announced the upcoming release of SPAWAR's 2004 Guidance. Closely related to the Chief of Naval Operation's Guidance for 2004, the SPAWAR guidance will include five strategic plan areas; including, executing FORCEnet, improving a culture of readiness to encompass the Fleet Response Plan, transforming the organization to support joint FORCEnet capabilities, valuing SPAWAR's people, and driving a culture of efficiency throughout the claimancy.



RADM Slaght announces the upcoming release of the 2004 SPAWAR Guidance.

Scott Randall discussed the SYSCOM's alignment initiatives and how they are aligning toward FORCEnet. "First we must make sure that the FORCEnet definition is understood throughout the Navy, and then we must align our strategy processes, customers, and people... we are in the embryonic stages of all of this," Randall said.

Representing PEO C4I & Space, James Churchill's presentation stressed the guiding principles of the PEO. "It is important to remember for whom we work... it is our job to take OPNAV requirements and turn them into capabilities for the warfighter," Churchill said. Using metrics to evaluate cost performance, and program off-loading (allowing programs to be operated by echelon III or contractors) were also discussed.

Speaking on behalf of SPAWAR Code 05, Thomas Higbee provided an update on the status of FORCEnet. "We are defining what it means to be FORCEnet compliant, and we're working with program



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offices to make sure that it happens; however, enforcing it can be challenging,” Higbee said. Higbee also discussed the importance of pilot programs to implementing FORCEnet, and noted that Trident Warrior '03 was a “huge success this year.”

CAPT Basil Gray drew the attention of the industry executives with his presentation on contracting with SPAWAR. Of particular interest was his mention of the PMTO follow-on contract. “We are right on track with our timeline,” Gray said. Soliciting input from the crowd, Gray also talked about the importance of transitioning from PMTO to the follow-on contract. Additionally, Gray mentioned anticipated changes from the Office of Federal Procurement Policy pertaining to small business procurements, and he recommended that industry monitor the official website (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/procurement/>).



Thomas Higbee presented a FORCEnet update at the SPAWAR / Industry Executive Network on March 3rd.

The Executive Network was followed by a no-host reception where industry and leadership continued to dialogue about topics of mutual interest.

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